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BOROUGH OF MOSSLEY

HEALTH DEPARTMENT



THE
ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND OF THE
Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR 1952

TRADE PRINTERS (M/C.) LTD.
BESWICK MANCHESTER 11



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BOROUGH OF MOSSLEY 1952



Health, Sewage and Market Committee

(as at 31st December, 1952)

Chairman:

Councillor N. BROOKES.

Deputy-Chairman:

Councillor G. LITTLEWOOD.

Members:

The Worshipful The Mayor, Councillor J. Boardman,
J.P.

Aldermen: F. H. Bell, J.P., E. Bottomley, A. Buckley,
J.P., B. Downs, D. W. Winterbottom, J.P., and
Mrs. M. Winterbottom.

Councillors: R. Beswick, J. Booth, Mrs. E. Brookes, E.
D. Chandler, F. Dyson, A. J. Hoskinson, Mrs. E.
A. Lee, F. Lees, Mrs. E. E. Marland, G. W.
Marsden, F. Mellor, G. O'Neill, E. Price, N.
Roberts and G. Westwood.

Town Hall,
Mossley.

TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF MOSSLEY.

Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the health of the Borough of Mossley for the year 1952.

The report contains full comments on the vital statistics, and the various statistical tables have been standardised and placed together in the report. The infantile mortality rate of 7 per 1,000 related live births is unusually low, but the occurrence of one maternal death is a black spot in the year's record. Tuberculosis and cancer continue to be important causes of death, which do not show the progressive decline that one would wish to see.

The incidence of infectious diseases was low during the year; one case of diphtheria and one case of poliomyelitis occurred.

In your efforts to improve the health of the people you are heavily handicapped by the old and ill-designed houses in which many of the people live. During the year you have made a closing order, under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936, in respect of a house without adequate through ventilation, and I feel that it should be your policy to do so on an increasing scale in respect of similar dwellings unfit for human habitation. During the year you have also made some progress in extending the water supply from the public mains to dwellings without a satisfactory source of supply, and your policy of encouraging owners to convert pails to water closets continues to bear fruit.

For work on your new and much-needed Sewage Works to begin it only remains now for the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to approve a starting date.

Reference is made under the heading "Offensive Trades" to the efforts unsuccessfully made to have the process known as Vell-Dressing declared an Offensive Trade; these, it is felt, will be of general Public Health interest.

I would take the opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support throughout the year, and to the staff of the Health Department for their assistance.

I have the honour to be,

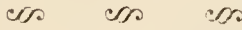
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALAN S. SIMPSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT
as at 31st December, 1952



Medical:

Alan S. Simpson, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S.,
D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.
Willis J. Elwood, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspectors:

Harold B. Bell, A.R.San. I., M.S.I.A. (Part-time).
James P. C. Bruce, A.R.San.A.S. (Part-time).
Frank Yates, A.R.San.I. (Whole-time).

Clerks:

Mrs. A. Bruce.
R. Castle.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	3,624
Population:—	
At Census, 1931	12,042
At Census, 1951	10,415
Estimated, Mid-1952	10,330
Number of inhabited Houses:—	
At Census, 1931	3,519
Estimated at end of 1952	3,629
General Rate for 1952	22/10d. in the £
Rateable Value	£45,962
Sum Represented by a penny rate	£178

Social Conditions of the Area

The district is primarily an industrial one, and the chief industries are cotton spinning and wool combing and spinning. There are also in the town a fruit and vegetable preserving works, a vell dressing works, three small foundries, a furniture manufactory, a wire-works, a cardboard box factory, two stone quarries, a number of small factories engaged in engineering work and part of a large dye-works. None of these industries is injurious to health.

In the outlying parts of the Borough there are a number of dairy farms.

VITAL STATISTICS

Civilian population—Registrar-General's estimate,
mid-1952— 10,330

Live Births	Total	M.	F.	Birth-rate per 1,000
Legitimate	132	77	55	estimated civilian
Illegitimate	11	4	7	population mid-1952
	—	—	—	Crude 13.8
Total	143	81	62	Adjusted ... 13.7
	—	—	—	
Stillbirths	3	1	2	Rate per 1,000 total
				(live and still)
				births 21
Deaths	147	74	73	Death-rate per 1,000
				estimated civilian
				population mid-1952
				Crude 14.2
				Adjusted ... 13.5

Maternal Mortality—

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion 1
Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (Live and
Still) births 6.85

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births 7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 7.58
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live
births Nil
Male infantile mortality rate 12.3
Female infantile mortality rate Nil

Neo-Natal Mortality:

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age 1
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 7

DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC CAUSES

(a)	From Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	From Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(c)	From Diarrhoea, Gastritis and Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(d)	From Diphtheria (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(e)	From Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	22
(f)	From Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	5
(Phthisis Death-Rate 0.39 per 1,000 population)							

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

The principal vital statistics for the year 1952, along with some comparative statistics for previous years, are shown in the nine tables which are grouped together later in the report.

TABLE I—shows the birth-rate, death-rate, stillbirth rate, maternal mortality rate and infantile mortality rate for 1952 along with the comparative rates for the five previous years, while in

TABLE II the comparative rates back to 1930 are given.

The birth-rate of 13.8 per 1,000 population continues the downward trend since the record rate of 22.5 for 1947.

The adjusted birth-rate of 13.7 for Mossley is lower, and the adjusted death-rate of 13.5 is higher, than the rates for England and Wales as a whole (15.3 and 11.3 respectively).

One maternal death occurred during the year, the first since 1943. That this death was due to eclampsia of pregnancy underlines the importance of adequate ante-natal supervision, for it might have been avoided

had use been made early in pregnancy of the facilities for ante-natal supervision available in the area. In this case the baby died when one day old. (See also TABLE IV).

It gives some cause for satisfaction that no other infant death occurred during the year; this gives a record low infantile mortality rate of 7 per 1,000 related live births. Lest undue complacency should be engendered, however, it is well to realise that when the numbers are small considerable fluctuations take place from year to year. The average rate over the past five years (40 per 1,000 related live births) compares unfavourably with the rate of 27.6 for England and Wales in 1952.

TABLE III—shows that there were 147 deaths and it analyses them by cause and sex; it is interesting to note that while cancer was named on the death certificate in 15 per cent. of all deaths, Tuberculosis was the cause of only 3.4 per cent.

TUBERCULOSIS

TABLE V—shows the new cases notified during the year and the deaths occurring. Approximately one new case was notified during the year for every 1,000 of the population, and there was approximately one death from tuberculosis for every 2,000 of the population.

TABLE VI—shows the annual incidence and death-rate for the past 21 years. From these figures it is apparent that there is no real decline, but that tuberculosis is as prevalent and as killing as it was in the early thirties.

The state of the Tuberculosis Register as at December 31st, 1952, was as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	19	20	39
Non-Pulmonary ...	9	5	14
	—	—	—
	28	25	53
	—	—	—

We have thus 39 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis on our register at the end of the year and the majority of these cases are residing at home. Although some of them are in a highly infectious state, it has not always been possible for a separate bedroom to be allocated to the patient. The re-housing of families in which there is an infectious case of pulmonary tuberculosis, particularly in cases where the family includes young children, should therefore be accorded a high degree of priority.

CANCER

According to the Registrar-General's statistics, the number of deaths attributable to malignant growths was 22, giving a death-rate of 2.13 per 1,000 of the

population. The figures for the last ten years are as follows:—

1943.....	8	1948.....	18
1944.....	11	1949.....	18
1945.....	11	1950.....	22
1946.....	22	1951.....	20
1947.....	24	1952.....	22

In TABLE VII the cancer deaths are analysed according to sex and the site at which the growth occurred and this analysis is compared with that for the previous year.

It is instructive to consider also the ages at which malignant growths may cause death, and the following table shows that while cancer is in the main a disease of the middle-aged and elderly it sometimes occurs in younger people also:—

CANCER DEATHS 1951 & 1952

Age Groups	Males	Females	Total
10-15	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—
20-35	1	—	1
35-40	—	1	1
40-45	—	1	1
45-50	2	—	2
50-55	1	1	2
55-60	5	3	8
60-65	3	—	3
65-70	6	4	10
70-75	5	3	8
75 and over	4	2	6

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the earlier advice is sought when any suspicious symptom appears, the better the chance of cure should the case prove to be one of cancer. A doctor's advice should be sought about any of the following symptoms:—

1. A painless lump in the breast.
2. A discharge or bleeding from the nipple.
3. Any irregular or unusual bleeding from the womb (especially after the "change of life").
4. A sore place, especially in the mouth or on the face, which does not show signs of healing in three weeks.
5. Bleeding from the bowel. (This may be caused by piles, but it is wise to make sure).
6. Any unusual change in the bowel habits.
7. Blood in the urine.
8. Persistent indigestion with loss of appetite.
9. A persistent cough or hoarseness which lasts more than four weeks.
10. Difficulty with swallowing.
11. Any increase in size, deepening in colour or bleeding of a wart or mole.

These symptoms do not necessarily mean cancer, but they should, in any case, be promptly investigated and remedied.

THE PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Detailed figures are given in **TABLES VIII and IX**

The total number of cases notified (92) was lower than it has been since 1944: this is attributable in the main to the low incidence of measles and of whooping cough during the year.

One case of poliomyelitis occurred during the month of September. No association with any other case was traced. The child concerned, after a prolonged stay in Hospital, has made a reasonably good recovery though some weakness remains.

The single case of diphtheria, which occurred in April, was that of a boy of seven who had been immunised at one year and at six years of age. It was, however, a clinical diagnosis and no *C. diphtheriae* were ever found on swabs; he was discharged after 13 days in hospital, his illness being a mild one.

TABLE I.
Extract from Vital Statistics, 1932

Year	LIVE BIRTHS		DEATHS (all causes)		STILL BIRTHS		MATERNAL MORTALITY		INFANT MORTALITY TOTAL		MORTALITY NEO-NATAL	
	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 Population	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 Population	No. Registered	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
1952 ...	143	*13.8	147	*14.2	3	21	1	6.85	1	7	1	7
" 1951 ...	146	14.1	168	16.2	3	20	Nil	Nil	8	55	6	41
" 1950 ...	152	14.4	149	14.2	4	26	Nil	Nil	5	33	2	13
" 1949 ...	170	16.2	138	13.1	4	23	Nil	Nil	11	65	—	—
" 1948 ...	200	19.1	122	11.6	5	24	Nil	Nil	9	40	—	—
" 1947 ...	235	22.5	148	14.1	4	16	Nil	Nil	9	38	—	—
Aver. 5 years 1947-1951 ...	—	17.3	—	13.3	—	22	—	Nil	—	46	—	—

*Adjusted Live birth-rate (comparability factor, 0.99)=13.7 per 1,000.

Death-rate (comparability factor, 0.95)=13.5 per 1,000.

TABLE II.
Birth Rate, Death Rate and Infantile Mortality Rate, 1930—1952.

Year Col. 1.	Population Mid-year Estimate Col. 2.	No. of Births Col. 3.	Crude Birth-rate Col. 4.	No. of Deaths Col. 5.	Crude Death-rate Col. 6.	No. of Infantile Deaths Col. 7.	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Col. 8.	AVERAGE 5 YEARS		
								Birth Rate Col. 9.	Death Rate Col. 10.	Infantile Mortality Col. 11.
1930	12,210	164	13.4	166	13.5	8	48			
1931	12,190	144	11.8	144	11.8	8	55			
1932	11,960	152	12.7	189	15.8	10	65			
1933	11,780	141	11.9	158	13.4	10	70			
1934	11,600	130	11.2	171	14.2	9	69	12.2	13.7	61
1935	11,450	121	10.5	155	13.5	12	99			
1936	11,290	130	11.5	155	13.7	10	76			
1937	11,030	172	15.5	178	16.1	8	46			
1938	10,900	140	12.8	170	15.5	10	71			
1939	*	113	10.5	151	14.2	6	53	12.2	14.6	69
1940	10,050	139	13.8	202	20.1	8	58			
1941	9,939	130	13.0	182	18.2	4	30			
1942	9,727	157	16.1	147	15.1	11	70			
1943	9,503	168	17.6	125	13.1	9	53			
1944	9,555	182	19.0	143	14.9	8	43	15.9	16.3	51
1945	9,652	144	14.9	156	16.1	11	76			
1946	10,250	199	19.4	142	13.8	8	40			
1947	10,430	235	22.5	148	14.1	9	38			
1948	10,430	200	19.1	122	11.6	8	40			
1949	10,520	170	16.2	138	13.1	11	65	18.4	13.7	52
1950	10,530	152	14.4	149	14.2	5	33			
1951	10,380	145	14.1	163	16.2	8	55			
1952	10,530	143	13.8	147	14.2	1	7			

*Population 1939 (a) for Birth rate 10,710. (b) for Death rate 10,600.

TABLE III.
CAUSES OF DEATH

No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis (Respiratory) ...	1	3	4
2...	Tuberculosis (Other)	—	1	1
3	Syphilitic Disease	1	—	1
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infections	1	—	1
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8	Measles	—	—	—
9	Other infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach .	5	—	5
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	3
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	1	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	1	1
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	8	3	11
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	—	1
16	Diabetes	1	1	2
17	Vascular, Lesions of Nervous System	5	15	20
18	Coronary Disease Angina	12	11	23
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	4	5
20	Other Heart Disease	14	10	24
21	Other Circulatory Diseases ...	3	4	7
22	Influenza	1	1	2
23	Pneumonia	1	1	2
24	Bronchitis	8	5	13
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	—	—
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—	1

Table III continued

No.	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1	1
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
31	Congenital Malformations	—	1	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	6	5	11
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	—	1	1
34	All Other Accidents	2	1	3
35	Suicide.....	—	1	1
36	Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—
	Total	74	73	147

TABLE IV.

INFANT DEATHS

By Cause, Sex and Age Groups

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGE AT DEATH									
	Under 1 Day		1 Day and less than 7 days		1 Week and less than 4 Weeks		4 Weeks and less than 5 Months		6 Months and less than 12 Months	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL	
Diseases peculiar to early Infancy (inc. Preme.)	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—

Note: As there was only one infant death during the year, this table is not printed in full.

TABLE V.
Tuberculosis, New Cases and Deaths

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
20—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—45	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1
45—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
	2	4	2	3	1	3	—	1
	6		5		4		1	
Case Rate per 1,000	0.58		0.49		Death Rate 0.39		0.10	
	1.07				Per 1,000		0.49	

TABLE VI.
TUBERCULOSIS
Incidence and Death-Rates Annually, 1932-1952.

YEAR	INCIDENCE			DEATHS		
	CASE RATE PER 1,000			DEATH RATE PER 1,000		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	TOTAL	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	TOTAL
1932	0.50	0.25	0.75	0.67	—	0.67
1933	0.76	0.08	0.84	0.59	—	0.59
1934	0.52	0.43	0.95	0.09	—	0.09
1935	0.55	0.35	0.70	0.70	0.09	0.79
1936	0.53	0.18	0.71	0.18	0.27	0.45
1937	0.45	0.36	0.81	0.63	0.18	0.81
1938	0.28	0.37	0.65	0.55	—	0.55
1939	0.28	0.19	0.47	0.09	—	0.09
1940	0.60	—	0.60	0.30	—	0.30
1941	0.70	0.20	0.90	0.90	0.10	1.00
1942	0.21	0.30	0.51	—	—	—
1943	0.63	0.32	0.95	0.21	—	0.21

TABLE VI.

YEAR	INCIDENCE			DEATHS		
	CASE RATE PER 1,000			DEATH RATE PER 1,000		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	TOTAL	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	TOTAL
1944	0.63	0.21	0.84	0.31	—	0.31
1945	0.83	0.62	1.45	0.21	0.21	0.42
1946	0.88	0.20	1.08	0.29	0.10	0.39
1947	0.48	0.10	0.58	0.38	0.10	0.48
1948	0.56	1.04	1.60	0.38	0.28	0.66
1949	0.67	0.19	0.86	0.10	0.10	0.20
1950	1.04	0.29	1.33	0.28	0.10	0.38
1951	1.35	0.19	1.54	0.29	—	0.29
1952	0.58	0.49	1.07	0.39	0.10	0.49
Average for 21 years	0.61	0.29	0.90	0.36	0.07	0.43
Average for first 5-yr. period 1932-36	0.53	0.26	0.79	0.45	0.07	0.52
Average for last 5-yr. period 1948-52	0.84	0.44	1.28	0.29	0.11	0.40

TABLE VII.
CANCER DEATHS

According to Site and Sex
1951-52

List No.	Sites	No. of Registered Deaths			
		1951		1952	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
10	Stomach	2	—	5	—
11	Lung & Bronchus	1	—	2	1
12	Breast	—	2	—	1
13	Uterus	—	2	—	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	4	8	3
15	Leukaemia, etc.	—	1	1	—
	Total	11	9	16	6

TABLE VIII .
INFECTIOUS DISEASES
Notification and Age Group Analysis

DISEASES	Total Cases at all Ages	AGE PERIOD—YEARS.											Total deaths	Total Cases Removed to Hospital; from the District
		Under 1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	17	—	—	—	1	2	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis, etc.	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	52	—	4	11	10	9	16	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	92	—	5	14	11	12	37	2	—	3	6	2	—	5

TABLE IX
Infectious Diseases—Annual Notifications 1930—1952

YEAR	Smallpox	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Puerperal Pyrexia	Enteric Fever	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Acute Primary Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningococcal Infection	Acute Poliomyelitis	Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	TOTALS
1930	—	3	6	158	—	—	1	—	8	7	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	193
1931	—	4	6	22	—	—	—	—	13	9	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	69
*1932	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1933	—	—	3	14	—	—	—	—	9	1	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	41
1934	—	1	6	15	—	—	2	—	6	5	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	43
1935	—	1	4	5	—	—	1	—	4	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	23
1936	—	14	7	4	—	—	—	—	6	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	43
1937	—	10	1	12	—	—	—	—	5	4	11	—	—	—	2	—	—	45
*1938	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*1939	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*1940	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*1941	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*1942	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1943	—	3	1	49	186	34	—	—	6	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	286
1944	—	23	2	5	8	10	—	—	6	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	63
1945	—	4	—	5	68	11	—	—	8	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	103
1946	—	10	1	—	44	30	—	—	9	2	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	105
1947	—	4	5	6	172	22	—	—	5	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	219
1948	—	1	1	15	122	38	—	—	6	11	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	197
1949	—	2	—	42	52	47	—	—	7	2	3	—	—	2	—	—	3	160
1950	—	—	3	49	112	110	—	—	11	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	289
1951	—	—	—	12	174	60	—	—	14	2	14	—	—	—	—	4	—	280
1952	—	1	4	17	52	3	—	—	6	5	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	92

*Figures for these years not available.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Hospital Services

There are no hospitals of any type in the area.

- (1) **General.**—Since 5th July, 1948, the Manchester Regional Hospital Board control all the hospitals which might serve the Mossley area, i.e., the Manchester General Hospitals. Under the same Regional Board but controlled by the Ashton, Hyde and Glossop Hospital Management Committee, are the Ashton-under-Lyne General Hospital (District Infirmary and Lake Hospital Sections) and the Hyde Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Mossley residents can, and do, use both Ashton and Manchester General Hospitals.

- (2) **Infectious Diseases.**—Hyde Hospital continues to take cases from Mossley; but no charges are now made for this service.
- (3) **Maternity.**—Maternity cases are admitted to the Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne.
- (4) **Smallpox.**—The Regional Hospital Board would indicate which hospital in their area was to be used for a case of smallpox should it arise.
- (5) **Puerperal Pyrexia.**—Cases requiring hospital treatment are received at Hyde Hospital.

Tuberculosis.—The Regional Hospital Board are responsible for the direction and control of the Tuberculosis Dispensaries which prior to 5th July, 1948, were under the control of Lancashire County Council.

Sanatorium treatment, where necessary, is provided and the Chest Clinic is in Lees Street, Ashton-under-Lyne. New cases attend on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. (and on the first Tuesday in the month there is an additional session at 6 p.m.), also on Friday at 10 a.m. A doctor's letter should invariably be presented.

Local Health Authority Services

Mossley is one of the six constituent districts of Health Division No. 17 of the Lancashire County Council, who are the Local Health Authority for the area and provide for the following services in Mossley:—

1. Maternity and Child Welfare.
2. School Medical Services.
3. Midwifery.
4. Health Visiting
5. Home Nursing.
6. Vaccination and Immunisation.
7. Ambulance Services.
8. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.
9. Domestic Help.
10. Mental Health.
11. Health Education and Propaganda.

The above services are administered by the Lancashire County Council acting through their No. 17 Divisional Health Committee.

The Medical Officer locally responsible for the above Divisional Health Service is:—

Dr. Alan S. Simpson,
Divisional Medical Officer of Health,
Divisional Health Offices,
St. Michael's Square,
Ashton-under-Lyne.

CLINICS IN THE AREA

There are three clinics in use in the area, viz:—

- (1) **Technical School, Stamford Road (Telephone: Mossley 223).**

These premises are rented and one Child Welfare Centre is held here every Wednesday afternoon from 2—4 p.m.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the second Tuesday in each month, at 2 p.m.

A Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic is held on the first Tuesday in the month at 10 a.m.

- (2) **School Clinic, Town Hall (Telephone Mossley 56).**

The school clinic consists of two rooms at the top of the building, one used as a waiting-room and the other as a dental surgery or a minor ailments treatment room.

- (3) **40, Manchester Road.**

A Child Welfare Centre used every Monday afternoon.

All the above Clinics are far from satisfactory from the building aspect; the erection of a new combined clinic at the Market Place is now in progress.

Midwives

There is one Lancashire County Council midwife residing and practising in the district, viz:—

Nurse Basford,

10, Alphin Square, Micklehurst, Mossley.

Phone: Mossley 155.

Health Visitor and School Nurse

Two whole-time County Nurses are employed in the district as follows:—

Nurse L. Coyne, School Nurse.

Nurse D. Dawson, Health Visitor.

Nursing in the Home

There is one whole-time nurse employed (Miss L. I. Lawton, of 8, Foxplatt Road, Mossley—Phone Mossley 237) for the visitation of the sick, but there are no arrangements for the nursing of infectious diseases, e.g., measles, in the home.

Ambulance Service

The existing ambulances and personnel located at the Ambulance Depot, Manchester Road, were incorporated in the Local Authority Scheme.

The Headquarters is the Lord Street Garage, Ashton-under-Lyne, and the Mossley Depot is in use during daylight hours apart from week-ends. At such times the service is maintained from Ashton-under-Lyne.

ANNUAL REPORT SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1952

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH, SEWAGE & MARKET COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have the honour to submit my Report for the year 1952.

DRAINAGE

Fifty new houses have been connected to the public sewers during the year. Private drain connections are examined prior to filling in, and all connections to the public sewers are made by the Corporation, or by contractors under the supervision of the Corporation.

A new nine-inch sewer, approximately 200 yards long, has been constructed at Cemetery Road to serve a new housing estate.

Approximately 120 houses situated in outlying parts of the Borough are not connected with the public sewers.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, DISINFESTATION, etc.

Disinfections have been carried out after six cases of infectious disease. A total of nine rooms and five articles of clothing and bedding was dealt with. Disinfections have also been carried out after four deaths from non-infectious disease. Rooms occupied by persons suffering from tuberculosis are disinfected in cases where the patients are removed to sanatoria and in cases which terminate fatally. Householders frequently desire to have beds and bedding treated at the disinfecting station upon the fatal termination of an illness which is not notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Acts. In cases where the doctor in attendance or the Medical Officer of Health considers such treatment desirable, the work is done free of charge. In other cases a charge is made towards the cost incurred. Disinfection of bedding, etc. is carried out at the Corporation Depot, Scout. The apparatus consists of an Alliot & Paton's Patent High Pressure Steam Disinfecter.

Householders who reside within the district are supplied with disinfectant for domestic use free of charge, on application at the Town Hall. A man is in attendance on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings. The distribution of disinfectants free of charge requires to be strictly supervised, otherwise waste and misuse occur. Disinfectants should not be used in an attempt to disinfect drains and get rid of a foul odour which, on investigation, may be found to be due to some defect in the system: nor as substitutes for soap and water, fresh air and sunlight.

Nine privately-owned houses, comprising 29 rooms, have been disinfested after complaints of vermin. The method employed was to spray the houses thoroughly with "Vermicine" and to follow this up with sulphur candles, which were allowed to burn for a period of six hours. This work was carried out by the Corporation at the expense of the owners concerned.

SCAVENGING AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

There are 162 dry ashpits and 3,022 movable ashbins in use within the Borough. Bins are emptied each week and the contents removed to the Corporation Tip. The whole of the household refuse is collected by two Karrier "Bantam" refuse collecting vehicles. Approximately 1,800 loads of household refuse are dealt with per annum, equivalent to about 45 tons per week. No charge is at present made to shopkeepers for the removal and disposal of trade refuse. There is still approximately 20 per cent. of the refuse stored in fixed ashpits. The amount of refuse handled per week is increasing. The increased use of gas and electrical appliances for cooking and heating makes it difficult for the housewife to burn combustible refuse, especially in the summer time. The land purchased at Little Mill adjoining the Depot, has now been brought into use for tipping.

There are 2,287 pail closets, 1,606 fresh water flush closets and 137 waste water closets. The pails are emptied each week, cleaned and disinfected. The contents are mixed with a suitable absorbent and disposed of as a fertiliser. The number of houses on the water carriage system is 1,358.

The number of fresh water flush closets has increased by 142.

Under Section 47 (4) of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council has made a contribution of not more than £8, in 70 cases in which a water closet has been substituted for a pail closet or waste water closet. The work is undertaken voluntarily by the owners concerned, and the total number of new water closets provided under the scheme since it was adopted by the Council in July, 1945, is 443.

Under Section 75 (3) of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council have undertaken from the 20th February, 1951, to provide bins for household refuse at an annual charge of three shillings each. The number of bins provided to date under this arrangement is 272.

SALVAGE

The salvage of waste materials has continued during the year. The following table shows the weight and value of the materials sold, with comparable totals for the previous year.

Materials	Weight			lbs.	Value		
	T.	C.	Q.		£	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper ...	74	17	2	—	822	4	6
Loose Tins	4	10	—	—	4	10	0
Mixed Bottles	1	2	3	—	3	1	11
String		3	2	—		14	0
Sacking		1	2	—		4	6
Rags		3	3	14	1	14	10
Total 1952	80	19	—	14	832	9	9
Total 1951	92	2	3	14	1057	5	11

The waste paper is sold to a Paper Mill at Stalybridge, Cheshire.

NUISANCES

252 informal notices have been served and 249 nuisances have been abated. In the majority of cases owners of property maintain their houses in a reasonable state of repair but there are some owners and agents of property who fail to carry out the most necessary work until pressure has been brought to bear by the officials of the Health Department. There is also a class of tenant who fails to maintain his house in a reasonable state of cleanliness, and several nuisances of this type have been abated.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades established in the Borough.

Following the refusal of the Town Council to renew the licence for the operation of a gut-scraping establishment, Court proceedings were taken on the 8th January to enforce this refusal. The firm concerned submitted that the process they were carrying on was "Vell Dressing" and not Gut Scraping. The magistrates dismissed the summons, on the grounds that there was no evidence of gut scraping being carried on at the premises.

Since the effect of this decision was to place the process being carried on outside the scope of Section 107 of the Public Health Act 1936 (which deals with Offensive Trades), an approach was made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government with a view to having Vell Dressing declared an Offensive Trade.

The Minister, however, has not considered it necessary to make such a declaration, and believes that the Council possesses sufficient powers under Section 91 of the Public Health Act 1936 to deal with any nuisance arising from the process concerned.

(Note: "Vells" are the stomachs of calves, and they are processed by drying, as a preliminary stage in the extraction of rennet. An offensive atmospheric smell is produced in the drying process).

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951

The Council have registered one premises where rag flock is used, under the above Act, which came into operation on the 1st November, 1951.

No licences have been granted in respect of premises used for the manufacture or storage of rag flock.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND FOOD INSPECTION

The licences of two slaughter-houses have been renewed during the year. As meat is supplied from a central depot at Oldham, there is no slaughtering within the Borough. Retail food-shops are inspected periodically.

Ten slaughter-men are licensed under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector are the Officers duly authorised by the Council to administer the Meat Regulations.

The Council have adopted the model bye-laws for the handling, etc., of food.

BAKE-HOUSES

There are 19 bakehouses within the Borough. One of these is a large, modern bakery, and the remainder are on a small scale, the occupiers baking for their own retail trade. Limewashing has been carried out when necessary, the general condition and cleanliness are good, and no offences have been found.

MILK SUPPLY

23 distributors of milk (other than cowkeepers) are registered, 18 operating from premises in the district and five from premises outside the district.

16 dealer's licences and one dealer's supplementary licence for the distribution of Sterilised Milk, and eight dealer's licences and one dealer's supplementary licence for the distribution of Pasteurised Milk have been issued under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Ten dealer's licences and one dealer's supplementary licence for the distribution of Tuberculin Tested Milk, and one dealer's supplementary licence for the distribution of Accredited milk, have been issued under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

FOOD POISONING

No cases of food poisoning occurred during the year.

ICE CREAM PREMISES

Two premises are registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, and 26 premises for sale only.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACT

The issuing of movement licences and inspections arising out of the movements of animals under licence are dealt with by the Police who, when necessary, call in on behalf of the Council a qualified veterinary surgeon for examination of contacts of notifiable disease.

SEWAGE WORKS

Tenders were invited for the reconstruction of the Sewage Works. The Council's Consulting Engineer recommended the acceptance of the lowest Tender, which was then submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government with an application for its approval and for the fixing of a starting date.

FACTORIES ACT ADMINISTRATION

Prescribed particulars with respect to matters under Parts I and VIII of the Factories Act 1937, which are administered by the Council.

Part I of the Act

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES	No. on Register	No. of		
		Inspections	written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories without mech. power	21	25	—	—
Factories with mech. power	64	52	—	—
Other premises under the Act	—	—	—	—
TOTAL:—	85	77	—	—

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	No. of Defects				No. of Prosecutions instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary, Conveniences					
(S.7)—	6	3	—	6	—
(b)					
Unsuitable or Defective:—					
Total	6	3	—	6	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT OUTWORK

There are 22 outworkers in one of the classes of work specified, viz.: making wearing apparel.

WATER SUPPLY

There is a sufficient and satisfactory supply of water in the Borough. The supplying authority is the Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge and Dukinfield (District) Waterworks Joint Committee, of which the Borough is one of the constituent authorities. The water is filtered and is subjected to chlorination as required.

38 bacteriological examinations of water going into supply were made by the supplying authority; these samples were all reported to be excellent. There was also one chemical analysis made; this was reported to be satisfactory.

Water is supplied from public water mains direct to 3,556 dwelling-houses with a population of 10,206 (estimated).

During the year the water mains were extended to permit supply to all new houses. In addition, a scheme was put into operation by which 8 dwellings in Quickedge Road are now supplied from the public mains; these dwellings were formerly dependent on spring water which was bacteriologically unsatisfactory. There still remain 73 houses with an estimated population of 209 which are not supplied from the public mains.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47

- | | |
|--|-------|
| (a) Number of applications made during
year under sub-section (3) | None. |
| (b) Numbers of orders made | None. |
| (c) Comments on operation of the section | None. |

HOUSING

(a) Statistics

Number of new houses erected during the year.

(a) Traditional Permanent Houses.

(1) By the local authority.	46
(2) By other local authorities.	0
(3) By other bodies or persons.	4

1.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	368
---	-----

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	865
--	-----

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	None
---	------

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	None
--	------

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	2
---	---

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	216
---	-----

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	191
---	-----

3.—Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which, after service of formal notices, were rendered fit.—

(a) By Owners 1

(b) By local authority in default of owners None

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 10

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners 6

(b) By local authority in default of owners None

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made None

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders None

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4.—HOUSING ACT 1936—PART IV.—Overcrowding:

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	11
(2) Number of families dwelling therein..	15
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein...	83
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	5
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	13
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	85

(b) HOUSING CONDITIONS

1. The commonest type of house is terraced, with two living rooms and two bedrooms, and without W.C. or bath. Age from 70 to 90 years, built of stone with solid walls and flagged ground floors, and often subject to rising dampness.

Approximate number of:—

(a) Back-to-back houses	50
(b) Back-to-earth houses	80
(c) Other houses without through ventilation	20

2.—Sufficiency of supply of houses.

- (a) There are approximately 375 applicants on revised housing lists, including 250 for 2-bedroom houses.
- (b) Particulars of housing schemes—
 - (i) in hand at end of year: 34 permanent houses in course of erection at the Micklehurst Site, and Tenders accepted for a further 20 houses.
 - (ii) contemplated: Further contracts expected to be let in April or May, 1953.
- (c) There have been no important changes in population during the period under review and none is anticipated in the future.
- (d) The present housing site is adequate for several years' development.

3.—Overcrowding.

- (a) No cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the Local Authority have been relieved during 1952.
- (b) There have been no cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.

4.—Fitness of Houses.

- (a) No difficulties have been found in action under the Public Health Acts or under the Housing Acts.
- (b) The number of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply is approximately 60; these draw water from wells.
- (c) The number of houses which have no separate closet accommodation is approximately 100.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

There are 27 factory chimneys in the district. In cases of excessive black smoke, factories are visited and are found to be willing to co-operate with the local authority in order to prevent this nuisance. 32 observations have been taken during the year.

Domestic Chimneys.—The Police normally deal with the question of excessive smoke from a domestic chimney.

The Council have joined the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee's Joint Scheme No. 2 for the investigation of atmospheric pollution. Two lead peroxide instruments were installed in August, 1951, one at the Town Hall and one at Lower Hey Farm, and the results obtained during the year are given in the following table.

PETROLEUM ACTS AND EXPLOSIVES

One new licence has been issued for the storage of 1,000 gallons of petroleum spirit, and 25 licences have been renewed for the storage of a maximum aggregate quantity of 24,650 gallons. Two licences have been renewed for the storage of mixed explosives. The registration of 16 premises for the storage and sale of mixed explosives (fireworks) has been renewed.

No breaches of the regulations have been found.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HAROLD B. BELL, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Observations of SULPHUR DIOXIDE expressed as mg. SO₂/day/100 sq. cm.

Batch A. PbO₂ (louvred cover).

SITE	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Means	
													Winter 1951/2	Summer 1952
Mossley M.B.														
Town Hall	1.81	2.08	1.25	1.10	0.97	0.80	0.69	0.80	0.95	1.15	1.61	1.87	1.66	0.84
Lower Hey Farm ...	1.83	2.41	1.52	1.35	1.04	1.03	1.03	1.09	1.14	1.25	1.29	1.94	2.15	1.07
Summer means—May to September.	Winter means—November to March.												Yearly means—12 months.	

